

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: SUGA, et al.) Confirmation No: 6233
Application No.: 10/586,690) Group Art Unit: 1793
Filed: July 30, 2006) Examiner: Devang R. PATEL

For: JOINING METHOD AND DEVICE PRODUCED BY THIS METHOD AND JOINING UNIT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
Mail Stop Amendment (Restriction)
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed October 10, 2008, the elections required in that Action have been reviewed and the comments of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office have been considered. Applicants hereby elect Group I, Species B, *without traverse*. Please reconsider those requirements and the application in view of the following remarks.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Examiner has required a restriction requirement between the following Inventions:

Group I: Claims 1 through 25, drawn to a bonding method, in which the metal bonding portion of the object has a hardness of 200 Hv or less.

Group II: Claims 26 through 49, drawn to a bonding apparatus wherein objects to be bonded have metal bonding portion having a hardness of 200 Hv or less.

Applicants elect the claims of Group I, Species B, *without traverse*, i.e., claims 1 through 25, for prosecution in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to file divisional

applications for the subject matter covered by the remaining Invention. The inventor for the invention of the elected claims is the same as the inventor of record in the application.

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES

In addition, the Examiner has required an election of species from the two following species:

Species A: Claim 21 in Group I or Claim 47 in Group II, objects to be bonded are light emitting element and a probe.

Species B: Claims 22 through 24 in Group I or Claims 48 and 49 in Group II, objects to be bonded are chip and wafer.

Applicants further elect, *without traverse*, Species B, which reads on Claims 22 through 24, for prosecution in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications covering the remaining non-elected patentably distinct species, *i.e.*, Species A. The inventor for the invention of the elected Group I, which reads on Claims 1 through 25, is the same as the inventor of record in the present application.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding the present response, the Examiner is invited to contact Ajay A. Jagtiani at 703-591-2664, Ext. 2001.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 10-0233. **This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).**

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 5, 2008
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